

Seafood Industry Trading Supports

Project Outline:

The project will have two elements. Firstly, ensuring processors are continually updated and assisted through support and guidance. The second element will focus on assessing the economic impact of Brexit on the processing sector.

Support and Guidance: Post Brexit, the customs rules and regulations have changed, and it is important for the seafood sector to understand these changes fully. BIM's Brexit Mentoring Programme supports seafood companies importing/exporting products to or through the UK to adapt to customs changes as a result of Brexit. The programme focuses on supporting seafood companies to identify and action key steps in relation to customs, tariffs and non-EU trade requirements. The support will be provided by an approved BIM specialist advisor and be 100% funded by BIM up to a maximum of €4,000 per company. The support will also include the provision of user-friendly guides and information notes developed with SFPA, where relevant, and uploaded to BIM's Brexit Hub website which will help to disseminate this information to the industry.

Economic Impact Analysis: Brexit is likely to result in short, medium and long-term impacts on the seafood sector, that will only become apparent once the industry adapts to the new arrangements in terms of access, fishing opportunities and trade. To inform future policy changes or supports to the sector, there is likely to be a requirement for detailed analysis of the economic impacts of such changes or the costs associated with putting in place industry support schemes such as a decommissioning scheme. The analysis may also be used to benchmark the Irish processing sector against other sectors both domestically and internationally and identify opportunities for Irish processors.

Project Objectives:

The aim of this project is to provide a suite of support services to assist seafood processing businesses to navigate the challenges of Brexit. This will encompass support and guidance to understand new rules, documentation and studies to support DAFM to assess the longer-term impacts and opportunities of Brexit. The key goals are to assist industry to adapt, restructure and reposition post-Brexit.

Expected Benefits:

- Provide support services to assist seafood businesses to navigate the challenges of Brexit through support and guidance (new rules, documentation) and studies to assess the longer-term impacts of Brexit.
- Assist industry to adapt, restructure and reposition post-Brexit.
- An understanding of the economic impact and opportunities of Brexit on the Irish processing sector.

Projected Cost: €110,000